

THE delivery of the French Mail was

A TELEGRAM WAS RECEIVED IN SHANGHAI LAST

work announcing the loss of the British steamer *Perle* between Tientsin and Newchwang. We believe she was unharmed.

They have it on good authority says the N. C. Daily News, that Mr. Holt is building the largest new steamers for the blue-jacketed China line, and that eleven of the ships to compete with the Dutch mail to Java, and be able to carry military passengers and government stores.

The *Huogo News* says:—Rumours are current, which, if accurate, must mean the fall of the Japan Tea Manufacturing Company. The re-orientation of officials has become a matter of course.

withdraw the subsidy of 200,000 yen, if the conditions have not been fulfilled.

Mrs. Claude A. Reese writes as follows in this postscript to her last circular of 19th May:—“The mail steamship companies have again been ordered to stop sailing on the already high days of freight. The night draught is 15. Company for passengers, and also alone, calling only at the most interesting ports, should, one would think, pay.”

Some interesting figures are given by the Japanese Consul at Vladivostok. The ships arriving there last year numbered 115, with a tonnage of 96,623, of which the Japanese were responsible for 21 vessels, aggregating 29,752 tons, and the Germans 11, with a tonnage of 27,329, the Russians 10 vessels numbering 25, and their tonnage being 20,516. The total is an increase on the year of 18 vessels and 17,025 tons. From Japan goods to the value of \$20,478 94 rubles were imported, as compared with 227,534 25, in 1889.—Bygone News.

The Nipacuet was ashore on the Wednesday bar on the 22nd instant. The N. O. Daily News of 25th inst. says:—“The steamer *Martha* is ashore at Woosung on the 22nd instant, the Russian ship *Marina* on the 23rd, and the *Marina* on the Outer Bar on the Shanghai side. In reference to the stranding of the *Nau-*

This *Huigo* News says:—“Mr Miyagawa at Yokohama reports that 462,331 tons of coal were imported there last year, an increase of 27,000 tons as compared with the figures for 1898. Of this amount 463,118 tons were from Japan. The demand for coal at Yokohama probably is far about 370,000, as there was 89,000 tons in excess at the beginning of the year. The Consul warns the Japanese not to exceed that quantity or else a great reduction in prices will be the result. The *Asagumori* of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha Co. has been ordered to discontinue 230,000 being taken from Japan.”

Every effort had been tried in vain by the authorities of Soochow to obtain rain. At least the Governor heard that the Goddess of Mercy in a small town Kung-fuchang was very propitious, and the magistrate was permitted to go and reverently bring the image to the city. When the Goddess had completed only half the journey, the sky became cloudy, and the moment she entered the gates a tremendous shower descended, accompanied by thunder and lightning. The image of the Goddess was placed in a temple to receive the thanks and concense of the officials and the people, who rejoiced exceedingly.—Native paper.

Many people of Sungliang are very much excited over a kind of "hemp" wool which has been found growing there like a vegetable. The hairs of this substance are pure white, although some say black ones have been discovered. The phenomenon is said by some of the local seers to denote that a great drought will prevail this year, while others maintain it portends political troubles, for during the Ming dynasty a similar thing happened and was followed by a war with the Japanese. Some of these hairs are said to have been found near Shanghai. Of them it is written the old saying "When white hair grows from ground grass, when, male, young and old must go—famine comes."

A WELL-KNOWN old resident in Shanghai received on the 18th ult., a telegram from another old resident and friend then in London, reading "How are you?" Something that surprised, "replied by wire, 'Never better than ever.' " He had indeed been in the unexpected solitude. The mail brought him the solution of the conundrum in the shape of the following alarming extract from the Aberdeen Free Press of 18th May last:— "Anti-European riots have occurred in Shanghai. The quarters of the Customs House have been attacked and burned, and the British Consulate was first looted and then reduced to a wreck. The Consul and his wife escaped, but the Consul is reported

The Carewitch continues his generosity to Japanese institutions. We read in the *Yomi Shimbun* that he has made a donation of 200 yen to the Reformatory (Kanka-in) in Tokyo, and it is also stated that he has bestowed a sum of 2,000 yen on the police who, according to him, took care of him.

He gathered him during his sojourn in Spain. People of a facetious turn might say that His Imperial Highness' munificence is significant, since in the sequel of the Otan incident he has made gifts to a hospital, the police, and a reformatory, all of which institutions Teuda Sainzo has shown to be necessary. But, jesting apart, must be confessed that the Ozarewitch

behaved with great magnanimity and grace. He is seeking, in every possible way, to show Japan that he entirely dissociates the nation from the act of a military fanatic. The leading journals of Tokyo unanimously eulogize and express gratitude for his conduct.

MEMORIAL has been presented by Chang
ao, Governor of Shantung, setting forth
that the Taoist, to whom the transporting
Government materials for the Yellow
river works, and balloon to defray
various expenses, had been entrusted,
has been robbed of the treasure by his
sons. The Taoist and his assistant
were wounded in the encounter and with

the robbers were captured by the Tao-tai guards. The Emperor has issued a decree, dated the 15th of the present moon, on the subject, in which he expresses his opinion that the robbers were no common thieves to attack and rob a Government train; they must be a regularly organized band, having a skilful and daring leader, who, it is to be regretted, is at large. (Hankow Press.)

commanded to make every effort to apprehend this chief. The Magistrate of Dungmen, near which the robbery was effected, to be degraded for not having been better able to keep his district clear of brigands, and the minor local officials are awarded the

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